

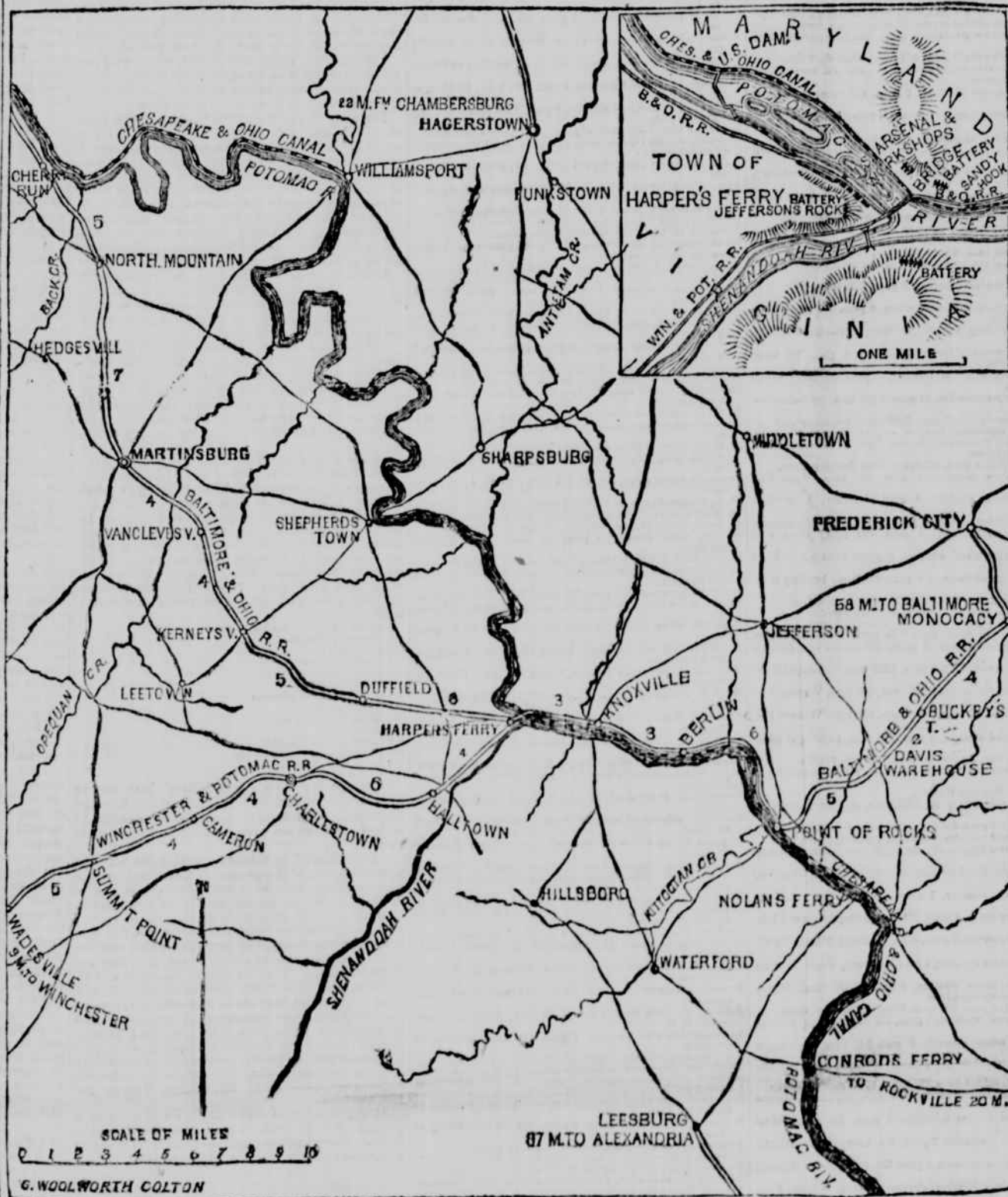
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THE PRESENT FIELD OF OPERATIONS.



Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.
WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 1862.

On the south-western front of our lines everything is at a dead standstill, principally because there is no enemy to disturb us. The Occoquan and Bull Run below Union Mills are free of Rebels, their cavalry only clinging feebly to Centerville and Fairfax Station and Court-house, the Rebel lines running thence irregularly north-west to Goose Creek, at a point above Leesburg.

Our cavalry went into Leesburg yesterday, and found there only a few Rebel scouts, who fled at their approach. The hospitals there are full of Rebel sick.

Two privates of the 3d Mississippi Battalion were captured this morning near Leesburg and brought to headquarters, they having come from Montgomery, Ala., by rail to Gordonsville, thence about through Culpepper, Manassas, Centerville, and Fairfax. They intended to join their regiment in Maryland. They agree in saying that they were pressed into the Rebel service, and expressed satisfaction at being prisoners. But few troops are in Richmond, they say, that city being little more than a vast hospital. They further report that Charleston, S. C., has been practically evacuated by its citizens, many becoming fugitives to distant cities, and many others having ensconced themselves in hastily-built huts beyond the limits of the Corporation and the range of Yankee gunboats.

A negro who came into our lines to-day from the Rebel army in Maryland says they all crossed by Noland's Ferry and Ford to Transmettown, and thence moved up the Monocacy.

We learn that the enemy has recrossed at least one division into Virginia at Williamsport, and from both sides of the river had attacked Col. Miles's position at Harper's Ferry, and obliged him to evacuate Maryland Heights, of which they had taken possession. He was strongly intrenched on Bohrer Heights, however, and felt confident of being able to hold his position.

There are rumors to the effect that fighting has been going on to-day, but they are either premature or so particular as to be untrustworthy.

On Friday night, as we stated in Saturday's Tribune, Frederick City was occupied by our forces, and soon our advance-guard was in pursuit of the rear-guard of the enemy. One of your special correspondents, writing from Frederick on Saturday evening, sends the following account of subsequent operations:

We have been doing a fine business to-day in chasing up the Rebels. About 500 prisoners have been taken in the skirmishes, and are now arriving and being rapidly disposed of by Col. Allen, Provost Marshal of Frederick. The rear guard of the enemy fighting obstinately, and boldly contest every inch of ground.

Nearly all the Marylanders, who enlisted in the Rebel army while in this vicinity, have been taken prisoners to-day, and are coming into the city looking very speechless and crest-fallen. They confess that they have already had enough of the war.

The army, as it passed through Frederick to-day, met with a grand ovation. The entire population were out in the streets, upon the balconies, on the housetops, and wherever else standing place could be found which afforded a view of the army. Not a Rebel sympathizer could be seen or heard. And I doubt if there is a city in New-England which could have manifested more enthusiasm upon a similar occasion.

An undecurrent of sadness, however, is setting in this evening, over the news that there is a strong probability that the Rebel army will succeed in occupying to the Valley of Virginia. Both citizens and soldiers regret it deeply. They were in hopes the Rebels would carry out their threats of invading Pennsylvania.

In the skirmishes to-day we have lost in killed and wounded but 25 or 30. The enemy is said to have suffered severely from one or two of our cavalry charges.

Each regiment carried a red flag with a cross made of diagonal blue stripes, stretching from corner to corner, and with thirteen stars on the stripes. The description of the Rebels personal appearance is similar to that given by other observers. Grey predominated over butternut in the color of the uniform, which was exceedingly dirty. The arms were rusty. Many of the soldiers were without shoes or stockings, and the officers were little more cleanly or better clothed than the privates.

As soon as they got into the streets crowds thronged the stores, especially the shoe stores, and "lived on the country" after the most approved fashion. The shoe stores were kept open on Sunday, to fit their waggons by Monday.

All the stores were pretty much cleaned out, and many of them closed, most of the owners dividing the residue of their stocks among the ordinary town peddlars, at the usual rates. In some places goods were paid for with Confederate notes or shinplasters, were with anything better.

ally appeared, and the editor of *The Frederick Herald* raised a loud cry for recruits.

Our diarist has no record of riots or disturbances or ill-conduct towards Union people by the Rebels, but there was plenty of hard swearing about the Yankees.

The men boasted that they never met but one regiment of Yankees that dared to cross sabres with them—the 1st Michigan.

Stuart was entertained at the houses of Southern sympathizers. Meeting the hospital steward, Fitzgerald, the Rebel Gen. bade him, tell the Gen. of the Union troops that whatever punishment he inflicted upon the Secessionists in Frederick, should be meted out to Unionists in retaliation.

The steward answered that being an officer of the United States army, he would convey no such message, and suggested to Gen. Stewart that he had better wait and deliver it himself. News came of the approach of the national troops, and Stewart's two remaining companies made ready for a charge. Cannon were heard at Frederick, and there was a skirmishing for some time.

When Stuart's company charged, they were met by the 2d United States Cavalry. Both fell back, but Stuart's men returned with seven of our soldiers prisoners. Presently, however, a regiment of our infantry appeared, and its reception simultaneously with the Rebel retreat was most enthusiastic and hearty. Waving of handkerchiefs, clapping of hands, loyal flags and shouts of welcome greeted our forces as they marched into town.

The Rebel Evacuation of Frederick.
CHAMBERSBURG, Saturday, Sept. 13-11 p. m.
It is now positively known that the Rebel army evacuated Frederick yesterday, passing through Boonesboro and Hagerstown toward Williamsport.

Eye-witnesses state that the Rebel column was from 9 o'clock in the morning until dark passing a given point.

The force of the Rebels, estimated by an officer who witnessed their movements, was 30,000 infantry, 6,000 cavalry, and 90 pieces of artillery.

A party of Rebel cavalry made a dash on our pickets at the State line this forenoon, and captured Joseph C. McBride of the regular cavalry from Carlisle Barracks.

They paroled him, telling him they were going on North in a day or two.

The advance has been made this side of the line. Gentlemen from near Martinsburg report Jackson to have crossed with his army near Williamsport on Thursday, and camped six miles west of that place that night. He had 15,000 infantry, 10,000 cavalry, and 40 pieces of artillery. He did not go toward Martinsburg, but took the road to Western Virginia, either to attack Gen. Kelly or to cross the river at Hancock, and enter Pennsylvania at a point where he thinks no troops oppose him. He is said to have cut the telegraph and destroyed the railroad.

A wagon train six miles west of Hancock is reported as having been captured by the Rebel cavalry.

Another rumor is to the effect that Gen. White and his force at Martinsburg were all taken prisoners to-day, and everything up to the hour of 11 p. m. was quiet in front.

The Occupation of Frederick—Movements of the Rebels.
BALTIMORE, Sept. 14, 1862.

The report that the Rebels had made an attack on the Northern Central Railroad is unfounded. There was cannonading at Harper's Ferry all day yesterday, ceasing at four o'clock in the afternoon. The result has not yet been learned.

Gen. Burnside passed through Frederick early on Saturday morning, and the whole army pushed on after the enemy by every road, even crossing the fields. The people turned out to welcome Burnside, with the wildest enthusiasm, men, women, and children; and when McClellan came, the people blocked up the streets so that it was difficult for him to reach his headquarters. The scene is described as most grand. The waving of flags and handkerchiefs was universal, and even the children screamed words of welcome at the top of their voices.

Our advance guard entered Frederick on Friday evening, at 5 o'clock, and had a skirmish on the streets with Stuart's cavalry. Several were killed and wounded on both sides, and Col. Moore of the loyal Virginia cavalry was captured by the Rebels and carried off, but was afterward recovered.

The Rebels did not destroy the three turnpike bridges over the Monocacy, but left nothing but the piers standing of the splendid railroad bridge.

A Rebel train of 100 ammunition and subsistence wagons was captured by Gen. Franklin, and about 150 prisoners had been sent to Frederick.

The following was received this morning by the Associated Press, by special messenger:
FARMERSBURG, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

Frederick is ours. The first of our forces entered the east end of the town at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Half an hour later a cavalry force under command of Gen. Pleasanton entered the city by way of the market street turnpike.

The main body of the Rebel forces evacuated the city on Thursday.

A few cavalry from the command of Gen. Stuart and the Hampton Legion made a charge upon our troops when the latter entered, but the enemy were speedily repulsed. Our loss was two killed and six wounded, while the Rebels suffered at least to that extent.

The reception of our forces was of a most enthusiastic character. The entire city was overjoyed, and the people turned out en masse to welcome our forces. All along the streets through which our forces passed flags waved from housetops and windows, and the side-walks were lined with spectators, including a fair representation of ladies.

The Rebel forces are represented to be about 125,000 strong.

The citizens of Frederick have suffered much from the Rebel incursion, including the loss of domestic supplies.

The enemy were in a starving and ragged condition, many of them being without shoes. They confidently expected that at least 50,000 men would flock to them in Frederick County.

Jackson was here, together with Longstreet and Hill. They left Frederick with the intention, as reported, of going to Pennsylvania, but subsequent events seem to indicate that they will endeavor to retreat into Virginia by way of Williamsport.

This morning an engagement is going on at the foot of the mountains, on the road to Sandy Hook, with the Rebels, consisting of 2,000 cavalry and three batteries.

A portion of the enemy went to Hagerstown, while Jackson took the left hand road toward Harper's Ferry.

The Rebels left 450 of their sick in Frederick. About 400 prisoners were taken last night and this morning between this city and the mountains. By Special Messenger to the Associated Press.
FREDERICK, Saturday, Sept. 13-p. m.

Heavy Firing Heard at Greencastle and Chambersburg.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

A dispatch has just been received from Col. Thos. A. Scott, from Harpersburg, stating that a battle is going on below Hagerstown between Miles's and Jackson's forces, and calling on all troops to rush to Harpersburg. Our citizens are making a prompt response—hundreds of armed men are rushing through the streets to the Pennsylvania Railroad depot.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

Heavy artillery firing was heard at Greencastle and Chambersburg this morning, in the direction of Williamsport.

The main body of the Rebels do not appear to have gone to Hagerstown. Gen. Longstreet's Division, numbering from 20,000 to 30,000 men, is only there, apparently to supply forage and supplies for the balance of the Rebel army, which is at Boonesboro.

Our pickets have been driven in to the State line. State troops continue to arrive, and leave for Chambersburg as fast as transportation can be forwarded.

Gen. Lee is said to be at Hagerstown.

The Rebels occupied Middleburg to-day with 3,000 infantry, and were followed by large wagon trains. The locality of the late firing is not definitely known, but is supposed to have been between the Rebels under Stonewall Jackson and the Union force of 2,500 men under Col. White at Martinsburg, or Col. Miles at Harper's Ferry.

Our pickets extend two miles beyond New-Castle. The Rebels occupy the State line with 500 cavalry under Lieut.-Col. Brian.

HARRISBURG, Saturday, Sept. 13-4 p. m.

A heavy battle has been progressing south of Hagerstown for the last four hours. It is supposed to be between Jackson and the Union forces at Martinsburg.

Heavy cannonading was heard this morning at Hanover, Green Castle, and Chambersburg, proceeding apparently from an action between McClellan's Army and the Rebels south of Hanover.

Gen. Reynolds has assumed command of the army for the defense of Pennsylvania.

Edward McPherson, candidate for re-election to Congress in the XVth Congressional District, is on the staff as volunteer aid-de-camp.

The excitement has increased by the reported cannonading heard at Chambersburg and Green Castle. Military operations are progressing finely.

Regiments are constantly being forwarded. Troops are pouring in on foot and by rail from all directions.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 14, 1862.

Two railroad employees who were taken prisoners by Jackson near Williamsport have returned. They say he took them with him across the river, and when his Division had crossed on Friday, allowed them to return. There can therefore be no doubt of the fact that Jackson is on the other side of the river.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14-Midnight.

That the fight has been progressing in the direction of Harper's Ferry seems beyond question. Both on the Virginia and Maryland sides of the Potomac heavy firing has been heard all day with but brief interruptions.

The reports were received two miles from the city. The news thus far received, through private sources, gives promise of beneficent results to the Union cause, and has accordingly elated the spirits of all loyal men.

Mail communications with Frederick will be resumed to-morrow.

The Retreat of the Rebel Army Across the Potomac.
BALTIMORE, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

We have positive information that the Railroad communication was interrupted and the telegraph wires cut between Harper's Ferry and Cumberland yesterday by the Rebels.

A reconnaissance to the vicinity of North Mountain, about seven miles South of Williamsport, encountered some Rebel pickets. We killed and captured 13. It was discovered that Gen. Lee and Jackson had crossed the Potomac River near Martinsburg.

Gen. Longstreet, it was thought, would cross further up the river.

The whole Rebel force is retreating across the Potomac.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

The retreat of the entire Rebel army across the Potomac River is not believed in official circles.

The sending of the troops is urged as necessary. CHAMBERSBURG, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

much excited, and each one telling what he saw and heard of the movements of the Rebels.

Citizens who arrived to-day from Williamsport say that a very large Rebel army is at that point, and it is supposed that they intend crossing there. The people are leaving their homes throughout that entire section of country, and crowding up this way toward Harpersburg. But it is expected that the Rebels will soon be driven out, as large bodies of troops are expected here soon from the northward, under the call of Gov. Curtin.

The Anderson Cavalry are supplied with horses and other equipments, and when they are prepared to take the field, we shall no doubt receive a good account of them, as they are one of the finest regiments in the service.

Nothing has been heard from Hagerstown up to 7 o'clock this evening, and it is believed that the Rebels will not come this side of that place.

Important Capture of Rebel Officers.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Sept. 13, 1862.

The Police made an important capture last night at the house of Dr. T. L. Williamson, seven miles from this city, on the Hookerstown road. Having received information that some Rebel officers from the invading army were being fed by their friends, the police proceeded thither and surrounded the house, and while those within were having a jolly good time, bagged the whole party, as follows: Capt. Harry Gilmer, Co. F. Stuart's cavalry; Gratton D. Carlisle, Lieut. Baine.

These men were disguised in citizen's dress.

The police also seized Dr. Williamson, their entertainer, and the following gentlemen friends: J. P. Hayward, J. H. Buchanan, Alexander Carey, Martin McGraw.

The whole party were brought to this city, and are now in close custody.

The police were armed with rifles and prepared for any emergency.

The following booty was also found on the premises: Two splendid horses, a sword, a gun, two revolvers, a large knife, a powder flask, some shoes, boots, flannel shirts, etc., intended for the Rebels.

These Rebel officers belong to this city. It is thought they will, as they justly should, meet the fate of spies.

Frederick Evacuated—Lieut. Frank Gallagher a Prisoner.
From The Baltimore American of Saturday.

We have some additional particulars from a gentleman who left Frederick at 2 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, where he had been since the occupation of Frederick. He confirms all the statements we have published with regard to the destitute condition of the Rebel army, but says that the discipline was most severe among them. For the slightest offense he saw officers knock men down with the butts of their pistols, and otherwise treat them with the greatest severity. They were in the most filthy condition, and could be seen about the streets picking the lice off each other.

He states that the evacuation of Frederick County commenced Tuesday night, and that in the train was about 1,500 wagons, nearly all of them empty, and he has no doubt that they are to be filled in the valleys on the way to Williamsport, and to go back loaded to Virginia. They said they were going to Pennsylvania, but our informant says that they never go where they say they are going, and it was his impression that they would cross back to Virginia at Williamsport. As to their number, he contends that not more than 30,000 have passed through Frederick, and he thinks that they left fully impressed with the conviction that a longer stay in that section of country would not be safe.

When he left the town was quiet, and even the Provost Guard had been withdrawn. He passed, on the Baltimore Turnpike, the 4th Rebel Maryland Cavalry, going toward Frederick, with baggage train in front, evidently closely following the rear of Longstreet's army, which had gone over the mountains toward Hagerstown. He passed the Rebel pickets at New-Market, at 4 o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Gen. Hooker's Division of Gen. Burnside's Army advanced on Frederick in force, from Poplar Springs, at noon yesterday, and doubtless occupied the town last night, as there was no force to oppose him.

We also learn from the same gentleman that Lieut. Frank Gallagher of the Maryland Home Cavalry, as well as Lieut. R. B. Milling of the same cavalry, were taken prisoners at Leesburg, in the skirmish at that place on Tuesday, the 3d inst., and at last accounts were held by the Rebels as such, waiting to ascertain to which United States army division they belonged. As they are in the division of Gen. Wool, no apprehension need be felt as to their not being paroled.

MOVEMENT OF GEN. BURNSIDE.
We had an interview yesterday with a messenger from Gen. Burnside's corps d'armée, who left Leesburg, on the Baltimore and Frederick turnpike, at 6 o'clock Thursday evening. Gen. Burnside occupied at that time the Frederick turnpike from Cooksville to Ridgeville with his infantry, and had sent a strong cavalry force, with artillery, to New-Market. Just as the messenger left, the report reached headquarters that the enemy had been driven out of New-Market, and some prisoners captured.

The army was in excellent condition, and was moving forward with enthusiasm to meet the enemy.

Reported Battle at Harper's Ferry.
The Baltimore American of Saturday morning has the following:

A gentleman who left Frederick Thursday afternoon states that when he left, there was considerable consternation among the Rebels with regard to a rumor that had just reached town of a heavy battle at Harper's Ferry.

Col. Dixon H. Miles repulsed an attack by Gen. Loring with great slaughter. The account was that Loring had crossed the Potomac at Williamsport simultaneously with the crossing of Jackson and Lee at Leesburg. Instead of marching to Camp Hill and Ridgeville with his infantry, he had sent a strong cavalry force, with artillery, to New-Market. Just as the messenger left, the report reached headquarters that the enemy had been driven out of New-Market, and some prisoners captured.

A short distance above Harper's Ferry he attempted to ford the river with a large body of cavalry and infantry. The report was that when the river was covered with troops, Col. Miles opened upon them with his batteries from Camp Hill and the trawls work of the railroad with grape and canister, causing the river actually to run with blood, when the attempt was abandoned.

They had also previously made an attempt to storm the batteries on Maryland Heights, and were repulsed by masked batteries scattering them and strewing the field with dead.

That there was a fight at Harper's Ferry on Wednesday afternoon was well known in Frederick, as cannonading was heard there for fully four hours. The current rumor both among Rebels and citizens of Frederick was as above stated.

Westminster Occupied by Rebels.
From The Baltimore Clipper, Sept. 13.

At 7 1/2 o'clock on Thursday night the beautiful town of Westminster, Md., was taken possession of by five hundred Rebel cavalry. The enemy came dashing into the town at a rapid rate and immediately proceeded to place pickets around the place to prevent the citizens from leaving. A gentleman named Crothers, in endeavoring to escape, was fired upon and killed. The Rebels seized the Post Office and the depot, ascertaining that there was a locomotive and two passenger and four freight cars a short distance from the town. The Rebels dispatched a force and brought them into the depot.

Upon being established in the town, the Rebels proceeded to lay hands upon all the boots, shoes and clothing that they could find in the place, for which they tendered in payment Confederate money. Secession sympathizers suffered in common with the Union residents, the Rebels stating that they have been deceived relative to the Secession feeling in this State.

A resident of Westminster, named Herman, proprietor of a large country store, managed to escape from the town, and proceeded down the railroad for several miles, where he met the train from Baltimore. He hailed the engineer by the aid of a lantern, and informed the conductor of the appearance of the Rebels. The train was turned back, and the passengers brought to this city.

When our informant quitted Westminster, the greatest excitement prevailed among the inhabitants. Residents possessing money and valuables were securing them so that the Rebels could not find the treasures.

The Rebels are represented as being miserably

See Eighth Page.